

OVERSEAS DIFFERENTIALS AND ALLOWANCES ACT

HR-7758

Passage of HR-7758 has a direct effect on certain benefits that accrue to Agency personnel abroad. Changes that are anticipated upon issuance of appropriate Executive Orders and implementing regulations include the following.

1. Standardized Allowances - extends definition of "foreign areas" to include the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
 - a. Temporary Lodging Allowance - adds an allowance to be granted for periods of up to 1 month at the end of a tour of duty abroad.
 - b. Quarters Allowance - adds water as a utility to be covered for those agencies not allowed previously to do so.
 - c. Initial Repairs - allows reimbursement under unusual circumstances for initial repairs to make substandard dwellings habitable.
 - d. Education Allowance - limits prohibition on payment of allowance to the 12 months following arrival in the United States when travel expenses to the United States authorized for secondary education purposes. This change is intended only to provide needed flexibility to allow for transfers between overseas stations where educational facilities differ. Authorizes travel to the school or college as opposed to the port of entry. Authorizes travel from the Canal Zone for undergraduate college education.

2. Storage and Shipment

- a. Storage - liberalizes conditions under which effects may be

Permits storage of effects for all Agency employees traveling to permanent duty posts outside the continental U.S.

Approved For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP92-00455R000100110006-7

~~stored.~~

- b. Shipment of Household Effects - removes limitation previously in effect for Alaska, Hawaii, territories, and possessions. Adopts net-weight concept.
- c. Shipment of Privately Owned Automobiles - broadens authority from "automobile" to "motor vehicle". Allows transportation of a replacement after 4 years.

3. Leave

- a. Home Leave - extends home leave to Agency employees not to exceed 1 week for each 4 months service after 24 months of continuous service outside the United States (no home leave for Alaska and Hawaii).
- b. Leave Following Assignment Abroad - allows payment of travel expenses and leave free travel time from all areas outside the 48 States and the District of Columbia. Removes requirement that employees have sufficient annual leave to carry them in pay status for 30 days.

4. Overseas Medical Program - extends provisions of this program to employees in Alaska, Hawaii, territories, and possessions, and to employees on TDY outside the 48 States and the District of Columbia. Agency Regulations will be revised to reflect these changes as soon as implementing orders are made available.

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